

Message Text

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AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS PRETORIA 1127

USIA FOR IOP/M, IAA
DEPT FOR AF/S

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: RSA PRESS ON CARTER/BUTHELEZI, AMBASSADOR YOUNG.

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

SUMMARY: CONTINUED COMMENT ON CARTER/BUTHELEZI MEETING,
WITH OPPOSITION PAPERS INTERESTED AND PRO-SAG PAPER PIQUED.
ON YOUNG, AFRIKAANS (PRO-SAG) PAPER CONTINUED SEVERE
CRITICISM (ON NOTION OF USA FORCES IN RHODESIA) END
SUMMARY.

1. DURBAN ENGLISH (OPPOSITION) PAPER "DAILY NEWS"
MARCH 8 EDITORIALIZED "WHATEVER THE MOTIVE BEHIND THE
MEETING, ITS SIGNIFICANCE IS LARGE AND UNMISTAKABLE.
NO RSA PREMIER HAS BEEN ACCORDED A SIMILAR OPPORTUNITY
SINCE GENERAL SMUTS...CYNICS WILL SAY ITS ANOTHER
EXAMPLE OF THE WEST'S "BLACK, GOOD: WHITE, BAD" PHILOSOPHY
OR THAT MR CARTER OWES PLENTY TO BALCK VOTERS. PARTLY TRUE,
BUT NO LESS IMPORTANT FOR ALL THAT. MR. CARTER AND HIS
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ADVISERS CLEARLY SEE THE KWAZULU LEADER AS A FORCE TO
BE RECKONED WITH...THOSE WHO SEE THE CARTER/BUTHELEZI
MEETING AS LITTLE MORE THAN WINDOW DRESSING COULD BE IN
FOR SOME SURPRISES."

2. CONSERVATIVE JOHANNESBURG ENGLISH PAPER "THE
CITIZEN" (WHICH SUPPORTS SAG) EDITORIALIZED MARCH 9

IN FORM OF OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER: "YOU'VE CERTAINLY GOT THE HUMAN RIGHTS BUG AND IT MIGHT BE AFFECTING YOUR JUDGEMENT. BECAUSE ITS BEGINNING TO LOOK VERY MUCH AS IF YOU'RE BENT ON DOING YOUR DAMNEDEST TO INTERFERE IN RSA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. FIRST, BY TELLING USA COMPANIES WITH SUBSIDIARIES IN RSA HOW THEY SHOULD ACT IN THE REPUBLIC. THEN, BY RECEIVING CHIEF BUTHELEZI IN THE WHITE HOUSE AHEAD OF ANY INTERVIEW YOU MAY GRANT THE SAG'S OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES. IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE FOR THE USG TO SHOW A LITTLE MORE CONCERN ABOUT WHAT THE WHITES AND THEIR GOVT THINK AND FEEL. FOR IN THE END IT IS WHAT THE WHITE GOVT DOES-AND NOT WHAT CHIEF BUTHELEZI THINKS IT SHOULD DO-THAT WILL DETERMINE WHETHER THERE IS PEACE ON THIS SUBCONTINENT. WE HAVE SAID IT BEFORE AND WE REPEAT IT AGAIN, THAT RSA NEEDS THE FRIENDSHIP AND GOODWILL OF THE USA. BUT NOT AT ANY PRICE. AND NOT AT THE PRICE OF USA INTERVENTION IN OUR DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. SO STOP PLAYING SIDES, PRESIDENT CARTER".

3. JOHANNESBURG AFRIKAANS (PRO-SAG) PAPER "BEELD" MARCH 9 CARRIED WASHDC REPORT QUOTING USUN AMBASSADOR YOUNG SAYING USA TROOPS COULD NEVER DIRECTLY PARTICIPATE IN SOUTHER AFRICAN CONFLICT, BUT COULD CONCEIVABLY FORM PART OF A U.N. PEACE FORCE IN RHODESIA BECAUSE THEY ARE "THE ONLY PROPERLY INTEGRATED MILITARY UNITS IN THE WORLD." REPORT ALSO QUOTED PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SPOKESMAN POWELL SAYING USE OF USA FORCES IN RHODESIA "NOT A SERIOUS CONSIDERATION FOR THE USG" "AND I'M SURE UNCLASSIFIED

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ANDY WAS SPEAKING OF A HIGHLY HYPOTHETICAL SITUATION".

4. SAME PAPER EDITORIALIZED: "YESTERDAY MR YOUNG PUT HIS FOOT IN HIS MOTH AGAIN. PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESMAN POWELL REACTED BY SAYING THIS WAS NOT A SERIOUS OPTION FOR THE USG. MR YOUNG'S CONTINUED VENTURES INTO AREAS WHERE ANGELS TREAD LIGHTLY INDICATES A NAIVE CHILD WANDERING IN THE BUSH. WHEN WILL THE RED WOLF GRAB HIM? IT IS TIME FOR MR YOUNG LEARNED A COUPLE OF HARD LESSONS ON REAL-POLITIK, AND THAT HE READ HIS HISTORY OF SOUTHER AFRICA, BECAUSE WE DOUBT HE HAS THE FAINTEST COMPREHENSION OF THE FORCES THAT LED TO THE CURRENT SITUATION. IT IS REGRETTABLE THAT THIS MONTH HE HOLDS THE PLATFORM OF PRESIDENT OF THE UNSC. BUT WE KNOW WHAT CAN BE EXPECTED WHEN CHILDREN ARE SENT TO DO THE WORK OF ADULTS." HUGHES

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